

1 **Amendment to the Claims**

2 **In the Claims:**

3 Please cancel Claims 22 and 43.

4 Please amend Claims 1, 8, 20, and 25 as follows.

5 1. (Currently Amended) A method of accessing information related to an installation of a  
6 peripheral device connected to a host device, comprising the steps of:

7 (a) obtaining from the peripheral device at least one identifier identifying the  
8 peripheral device;

9 (b) determining a network address based on said at least one identifier; and

10 (c) ~~enabling communication between the host device and a remote device at the~~  
11 ~~network address, said communication pertaining to the peripheral device in response to a request that~~  
12 ~~is automatically generated initially to facilitate the installation, executing a browser function on the~~  
13 ~~host device to access the remote device at the network address to obtain information required for the~~  
14 ~~use of the peripheral device by the host device; and~~

15 (d) enabling a user to suppress further requests to execute a browser function on  
16 the host device, to access the network address to obtain information not essential for the use of the  
17 peripheral device by the host device.

18 2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of obtaining occurs automatically  
19 when the host device detects a change in a number of peripheral devices connected to the host device.

20 3. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of obtaining occurs automatically  
21 when a user manually provides an indication to the host device that the peripheral device is connected  
22 to the host device.

23 4. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of determining comprises the steps of  
24 employing said at least one identifier as at least a portion of the network address.

25 5. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of obtaining comprises the steps of:

26 (a) issuing a request to the peripheral device for a device descriptor;

27 (b) receiving the device descriptor from the peripheral device; and

28 (c) parsing the device descriptor to determine said at least one identifier.

29 6. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of obtaining comprises the steps of:

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1 (a) issuing a request to the peripheral device for a string descriptor comprising  
2 said at least one identifier;

3 (b) receiving the string descriptor from the peripheral device; and

4 (c) parsing the string descriptor to determine said at least one identifier.

5 7. (Original) The method of Claim 1, whereby the step of obtaining comprises the steps of:

6 (a) issuing a Class request to the peripheral device for at least one identifier; and

7 (b) receiving said at least one identifier.

8 8. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, whereby the step of ~~reading~~ obtaining  
9 comprises the steps of:

10 (a) issuing a Vendor Specific Device request to the peripheral device for said at  
11 least one identifier; and

12 (b) receiving said at least one identifier from the peripheral device.

13 9. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of determining a network address  
14 comprises accessing a database that includes a plurality of network addresses, using said at least one  
15 identifier to find the network address in the database.

16 10. (Original) The method of Claim 9, wherein the database is stored on the host device.

17 11. (Original) The method of Claim 9, wherein the database is stored on a device that is  
18 accessible by the host device.

19 12. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of determining a network address  
20 comprises the step of generating a network address based on said at least one identifier.

21 13. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of enabling communication  
22 comprises the step of automatically retrieving at least one of data, machine instructions, and a  
23 document pertaining to the peripheral device from the remote device using the network address.

24 14. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of enabling communication  
25 comprises the step of automatically downloading a setup program that is stored on the remote device  
26 and pertains to the peripheral device.

27 15. (Original) The method of Claim 14, wherein the step of enabling communication further  
28 comprises the step of automatically executing the setup program that was downloaded to the host  
29 device to install software on the host device pertaining to the peripheral device.

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1           16. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of enabling communication  
2 comprises the step of automatically installing a device driver for the peripheral device on the host  
3 device.

4           17. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of enabling communication  
5 comprises the step of automatically downloading an application program that is stored on the remote  
6 device and pertains to use of the peripheral device by the host device.

7           18. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of enabling communication  
8 comprises the step of automatically downloading and installing firmware into the peripheral device.

9           19. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of creating a link to the  
10 network address that a user can subsequently select to later communicate with the remote device.

11           20. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of ~~communicating~~  
12 enabling communication comprises the step of automatically executing a browser function on the  
13 host device to automatically access the remote device at the network address with the browser  
14 function.

15           21. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of enabling a user to  
16 selectively execute a browser function on the host device to automatically access the remote device at  
17 the network address.

18           22. (Cancelled)

19           23. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of periodically updating  
20 the database to add and change network addresses pertaining to peripheral devices, each network  
21 address being accessed based upon at least one identifier obtained from a peripheral device.

22           24. (Original) A machine-readable medium having machine-executable instructions that  
23 when executed by a processor, cause the processor to implement steps (a) through (c) of Claim 1.

24           25. (Currently Amended) A system for automatically accessing information related to an  
25 installation of a peripheral device, comprising:

- 26                   (a) a peripheral device in which is stored at least one identifier;
- 27                   (b) a remote device adapted to communicate over a network; and
- 28                   (c) a host device comprising:
  - 29                           (i) a memory in which are stored machine instructions;

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1 (ii) a network interface adapted to communicate with the remote device  
2 over the network; and

3 (iii) a processor; said processor executing the machine instructions stored in  
4 the memory, to carry out a plurality of functions, including:

5 (1) communicating with the peripheral device to obtain at least one  
6 identifier identifying the peripheral device;

7 (2) determining a network address based on said at least one  
8 identifier; and

9 (3) ~~enabling a communication between the host device and the~~  
10 ~~remote device at the network address, said communication pertaining to the peripheral device in~~  
11 response to a request that is automatically generated initially to facilitate the installation, executing a  
12 browser function on the host device to access the remote device at the network address to obtain  
13 information required for the use of the peripheral device by the host device; and

14 (4) enabling a user to suppress further requests to execute a browser  
15 function on the host device, to access the network address to obtain information not essential for the  
16 use of the peripheral device by the host device.

17 26. (Original) The system of Claim 25, wherein said machine instructions further cause the  
18 processor to:

19 (a) issue a request to the peripheral device for a device descriptor;

20 (b) receive the device descriptor from the peripheral device; and

21 (c) parse the device descriptor to determine said at least one identifier.

22 27. (Original) The system of Claim 25, wherein said machine instructions further cause the  
23 processor to:

24 (a) issue a request to the peripheral device for a string descriptor comprising said  
25 at least one identifier;

26 (b) receive the string descriptor from the peripheral device; and

27 (c) parse the string descriptor to determine said at least one identifier.

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1           28. (Original) The system of Claim 25, wherein said machine instructions further cause the  
2 processor to:

3                   (a)     issue a Class request to the peripheral device for at least one identifier; and

4                   (b)     receive said at least one identifier.

5           29. (Original) The system of Claim 25, wherein said machine instructions further cause the  
6 processor to:

7                   (a)     issue a Vendor Specific Device request to the peripheral device for said at least  
8 one identifier; and

9                   (b)     receive said at least one identifier from the peripheral device.

10          30. (Original) The system of Claim 25, wherein said machine instructions further cause the  
11 processor to determine a network address by accessing a database that includes a plurality of network  
12 addresses, using said at least one identifier to find the network address in the database.

13          31. (Original) The system of Claim 30, wherein said database is stored by the host device.

14          32. (Original) The system of Claim 30, wherein said database is stored by a device that is  
15 accessible by the host device.

16          33. (Original) The system of Claim 25, wherein said machine instructions further cause the  
17 processor to generate a network address based on said at least one identifier.

18          34. (Original) The system of Claim 25 wherein said machine instructions further cause the  
19 processor to automatically retrieve at least one of data, machine instructions, and a document  
20 pertaining to the peripheral device from the remote device using the network address.

21          35. (Original) The system of Claim 25, wherein said machine instructions further cause the  
22 processor to automatically download a setup program that is stored on the remote device and pertains  
23 to the peripheral device.

24          36. (Original) The system of Claim 35, wherein said machine instructions further cause the  
25 processor to automatically execute the setup program that was downloaded to the host device, to  
26 install software on the host device pertaining to the peripheral device.

27          37. (Original) The system of Claim 25, wherein said machine instructions further cause the  
28 processor to automatically install a device driver for the peripheral device on the host device.

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1           38. (Original) The system of Claim 25, wherein said machine instructions further cause the  
2 processor to automatically download an application program that is stored on the remote device and  
3 pertains to use of the peripheral device by the host device.

4           39. (Original) The method of Claim 25, wherein said machine instructions further cause the  
5 processor to automatically download and install firmware into the peripheral device.

6           40. (Original) The system of Claim 25, wherein said machine instructions further cause the  
7 processor to create a link to the network address that a user can subsequently select to later  
8 communicate with the remote device.

9           41. (Original) The system of Claim 25, wherein said machine instructions further cause the  
10 processor to automatically execute a browser function on the host device to automatically access the  
11 remote device at the network address with the browser function.

12           42. (Original) The system of Claim 25, wherein said machine instructions further cause the  
13 processor to enable a user to selectively execute a browser function on the host device to  
14 automatically access the remote device at the network address, to display a web page indicated by the  
15 network address.

16           43. (Cancelled)

17           44. (Original) The system of Claim 25, wherein said machine instructions further cause the  
18 processor to periodically update a database that includes a plurality of network addresses, to add and  
19 change network addresses pertaining to peripheral devices, each network address being indexed using  
20 at least one identifier obtained from a peripheral device.